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Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-08 NSCE-00 INR-05 L-01
CA-01 PA-01 /041 W
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FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0861
INFO AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN JOSE 1751

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, CS
SUBJ: VESCO CITIZENSHIP APPLICATION

REF: A. STATE 96371, B. SAN JOSE 1545,

1. AMB, DCM, AND POLOFF MET WITH LOCAL ATTORNEY LATE 18 APRIL TO DISCUSS HIS REQUEST FOR DOCUMENTS TO ASSIST HIM AND HIS COLLEAGUES IN THEIR EFFORT TO PREVENT VESCO FROM OBTAINING COSTA RICAN CITIZENSHIP. ATTORNEY ELABORATED ON HIS INTEREST IN OBTAINING OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS DEALING WITH VESCO'S ITALIAN CITIZENSHIP APPLICATION, MAKING CLEAR THAT HE DOES NOT WANT TO REBUT VESCO'S CALIM TO ITALIAN CITIZENSHIP. THE OBJECTIVE, RATHER, IS TO SHOW THAT AT SAME TIME VESCO HAD ESTABLISHED RESIDENCY HERE FOR THE STATED PURPOSE OF EVENTUALLY OBTAINING COSTA RICAN CITIZEHSIP, HE WAS ALSO INVOLVED IN EXERCISING HIS CLAIM TO ITALINA CITIZENSHIP. SUCH INFORMATION, ATTORNEY EXPLAINED, WOULD SHOW THAT VESCO WAS NEVER SERIOUS ABOUT COSTA RICAN CITIZENSHIP AND WOULD CONSEQUENTLY WEAKEN THE BONA FIDES OF VESCO'S CITIZENSHIP APPLICATION NOW.

2. ATTORNEY FURTHER EXPLAINED THAT THE DOCUMENT REALLY NEEDED WAS VESCO'S SIGNED AND DATED APPLICATION OF CLAIM TO ITALIAN CITIZENSHIP. ATTORNEY STATED THAT HIS RESEARCH HAS ESTABLISHED THAT PER-
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SONS CLAIMING ITALIAN CITIZENSHIP ON JUS SANGUIS BASIS MUST SWEAR ALLEGIANCE TO ITALIAN CONSTITUTION AND AFFIRM INTENTION TO OBSERVE ALL RESPONSIBILITIES OF CITIZENSHIP. LAWYER BELIEVES THAT COPY OF VESCO'S SIGNED AND DATED APPLICATION TO BE RECOGNIZED AS ITALIAN CITIZEN PROBABLY WOULD ESTABLISH THAT VESCO HAD TAKEN SUCH AN OATH.

3. ATTORNEY SAYS THAT ITALIAN EMBASSY HAS BEEN APPROACHED AND

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REQUESTED TO OBTAIN THIS INFORMATION, BUT THAT LAWYERS' GROUP WAS TOLD THAT IT WOULD TAKE ITALIAN BUREAUCRACY AT LEAST THREE MONTHS TO PRODUCE IT AND GIT IT TO COSTA RICA. ATTORNEY SAYS HE WILL AGAIN APPROACH ITALIAN AMBASSADOR, BUT DOUBTS THAT ITALIANS WOULD PROVIDE SUCH INFORMATION ON AN ITALIAN CITIZEN DIRECTLY TO A PRIVATE COSTA RICAN CITIZEN.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: ON BASIS OF THIS NEW INFORMATION, DEPARTMENT IS REQUESTED TO RECONSIDER ASKING EMBASSY ROME TO ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN FROM ITALIAN CIVIL REGISTRY ON URGENT BASIS A COPY OF VESCO'S APPLICATION TO BE RECOGNIZED AS ITALIAN CITIZEN--IF ONE EXISTS-- AND TO FORWARD IT TO SAN JOSE SOONEST. ANY OTHER DOCUMENTATION CONCERNING VESCO'S CLAIM TO ITALIAN CITIZENSHIP OR HIS APPLICATIONS FOR RESIDENCE IN ARGENTINA, URUGUAY, BRAZIL THAT MIGHT SUPPORT BASIC POINT OF LOCAL ATTORNEY (I.E., THAT VESCO WAS NOT SINCERE IN STATING INTENTION TO BECOME CITIZEN OF COSTA RICA) IS ALSO REQUESTED.

5. EMBASSY RECOGNIZES THAT THERE MAY BE POTENTIAL DISADVANTAGE TO USG IN PROVIDING DOCUMENTS TO LOCAL ATTORNEYS IN SUPPORT OF THEIR EFFORT TO BLOCK VESCO'S CITIZENSHIP BID. HOWEVER, IN INTERESTS OF EVENTUAL USG PROSECUTION OF VESCO, WHICH IN OUR VIEW WILL BE SIGNIFICANTLY SET BACK IF VESCO BECOMES A COSTA RICAN CITIZEN, IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT WE BE PREPARED TO FURNISH SUCH DOCUMENTATION IF AVAILABLE, AND IF IT BECOMES NECESSARY. EMBASSY THEREFORE WOULD PROPOSE TO HOLD ANY DOCUMENTS WE RECEIVE UNTIL WE CAN GAUGE STRENGTH
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OF OTHER GROUPS WHICH MAY FILE MOTIONS IN OPPOSITION TO VESCO'S CITIZENSHIP REQUEST. IF, CLOSE TO END OF TEN-DAY PERIOD, IT APPEARS DOUBTFUL THAT SUM TOTAL OF OTHER EFFORTS MAY NOT BE SUFFICIENT, THEN AND ONLY THEN WOULD EMBASSY RELEASE DOCUMENTS TO ATTORNEY.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: GS
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From: SAN JOSE
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ISecure: 1
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Type: TE
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